

Articles about Communication and Civility

Communication Tools for Beginner

<http://www.brainpickings.org/2014/03/28/daniel-dennett-rapoport-rules-criticism/>

The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Brain Pickings website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://www.brainpickings.org/2014/03/28/daniel-dennett-rapoport-rules-criticism/>. The website's header features the 'brain pickings' logo on the left, which includes a silhouette of a head with a hand holding a pencil. To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links: 'about', 'support', 'contact', 'bookshelf', 'newsletter', 'literary jukebox', 'original art', and 'sounds'. Below the menu is a 'newsletter' section with a brief description: 'Brain Pickings has a free weekly interestingness digest. It comes out on Sundays and offers the...'. The main content area displays the article title in red: 'How to Criticize with Kindness: Philosopher Daniel Dennett on the Four Steps to Arguing Intelligently', followed by the author 'by Maria Popova'. A quote is featured: 'Just how charitable are you supposed to be when criticizing the views of an opponent?'. Below the quote is a paragraph starting with 'In disputes upon moral or scientific points,' and a quote from Arthur Martine's 1866 book 'The Art of Conversation'. To the right of the text is a book cover for 'DANIEL DENNETT' and a social media sharing widget with a 'Customize...' link. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock indicating 8:15 PM on 3/28/2014.

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Civility and communication

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Posted: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 4:56 pm

by Jo Emerson | 0 comments

Civility, meaning courtesy, politeness, and consideration or a polite act or utterance, appears to be declining. If a person is civil, they refrain from rudeness. By being polite, they have a positive observance of etiquette in social behavior. A courteous person has a consideration of others. What is happening to these traits in today's world?

Every day we are the recipient of less-than-civil behavior, or we witness it or we do it. Think back to when you are interacting as you work, shop or travel. Have you witnessed an incident or been part of one? How did it make you feel? For most of us we feel uncomfortable, or we don't want to get involved or we don't know how to make it better.



With the advent of the campaign season, we are being bombarded with negative ads. Instead of discussing a positive way to solve an issue, we hear personal attacks on candidates. We hear sound bites that are cruel and often untrue. We see our state and federal government being taken over by that mindset, and we've seen the results being government shutdowns. And it is becoming more apparent that we believe that is the way it is and we can't change it.



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